



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/23

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4th July 2022

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE 2022/23 MUNICIPAL
YEAR**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &
COMMUNICATIONS**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' comment and approval on the draft Work Programme of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the 2022/23 Municipal Year and to receive a list of matters requiring consideration by the Cabinet over the 2022/23 Municipal Year and ascertain whether there are any topics that can undergo pre-scrutiny by this Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Agree on issues for inclusion on the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for the 2022/23 Municipal Year (as set out in **Appendix 1**) (with appropriate amendment as necessary); and
- 2.2 Determine which items already identified within the Cabinet Work Programme should be pre-scrutinised by this Committee from the Cabinet Work Programme for the 2022/23 Municipal Year (as set out at **Appendix 2**).
- 2.3 Request that the Service Director Democratic Services & Communications notifies the appropriate Cabinet Member and responsible Officer, of the matters identified for pre-scrutiny in advance of Cabinet consideration.

2.4 Agree for the work programmes of the subject scrutiny committees, to be considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 There is a requirement to devise and publish a Work Programme for each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution (Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules). The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is responsible for setting and agreeing its own Work Programme. However, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee also has a co-ordinating role and will ensure that there is no duplication of work across the thematic scrutiny committees.
- 3.2 In consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee together with appropriate Council Officers and the relevant Cabinet Members, through the one-to-one engagement sessions, an initial list of work topics for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been produced and is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.3 Opportunity is provided to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to consider the proposed list of matters requiring consideration by Cabinet during the 2022 /23 Municipal Year to ascertain whether there are any topics which can undergo pre-scrutiny by this committee. (A copy of the Cabinet Work Programme is attached for information at Appendix 2).

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The work programme should reflect the committee's aims and objectives as well as add value to the work of the Council. It is up to the Committee to agree the items for inclusion in its work programme, but ideas are brought together from a number of sources to assist members in their choices. It is important that all Members have the opportunity to put forward items for consideration.
- 4.2 1-1 Engagement sessions will be undertaken to provide an opportunity for the respective Cabinet Members, Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs and Scrutiny lead Officers to discuss their respective work programmes, identify any key topics for inclusion and enhance dialogue and the flow of information between Cabinet and Scrutiny.
- 4.3 There are a number of areas which have been taken into account when developing the Draft Work Programme
- The work programme represents a mixed selection of topics;
 - It meets deadlines in relation to other Council meetings and those of external partners;

- Consideration as to whether the topic duplicates review activity which is taking place elsewhere; and
- Flexibility- to ensure that new topics can be factored in and changes accounted for.

5. **CABINET WORK PROGRAMME**

- 5.1 Attached at Appendix 2 is the Cabinet Work Programme for 2022/23 and Committee is asked to consider if there are any topics that can undergo pre-scrutiny by this Committee.

6. **SCRUTINY AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 6.1 To support effective scrutiny, challenge and policy development members are advised to determine matters for consideration within the committees work programme from a range of perspectives. These should include:

- Pre scrutiny of the identified key decisions proposed for Cabinet consideration over the next municipal year
- The delivery of services against the proposed objectives of decisions
- Matters of strategic significance to the Council, partners and stakeholders
- The development of policy of recommendation for consideration by the Cabinet.

- 6.2 To promote public participation in scrutiny, members are advised to provide sufficient capacity within the work programme to accommodate matters identified for scrutiny by the public. A Public Participation Strategy, which will provide a mechanism for stronger participation by the public and residents, will shortly be presented for member consideration, in-line with the new requirements contained within the Local Government & Elections Act (Wales) (2021).

- 6.3 Members are also advised to focus their scrutiny activities in areas, where maximum value can be achieved and to ensure that sufficient capacity is made available to respond to business yet identified by Cabinet for consideration and the Council's response to national policy drivers.

- 6.4 Most importantly members are advised to maintain focus, when planning your committees work programme, to enable the approach level of questioning and challenge to take place.

7. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not needed because the contents of the report are for information purposes only and further analysis of each of the Work Programme will be needed if the recommendations are to be taken forward.

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 The draft Work Programme has been compiled in discussion with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees in consultation with Council Officers as well as the relevant Cabinet Member.

9 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

10.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph Part 4 of the Constitution (Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4th JULY 2022

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &
COMMUNICATIONS**

APPENDIX 1 & 2

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23

CABINET WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23